

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 12802 01 OF 02 291817Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 XMB-02 /103 W
-----092254 291916Z /43

P 291752Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7571
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 01 OF 02 BRUSSELS 12802

USEEC

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EEC, EAID
SUBJ: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JUNE 26-27, 1978:
RENEWAL OF LOME CONVENTION
REF: (A) BRUSSELS 3153 (B) BRUSSELS 12353
(C) BRUSSELS 12220

1. SUMMARY: THE JUNE 26-27 EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL
APPROVED A GENERAL MANDATE FOR THE EC COMMISSION TO OPEN
NEGOTIATIONS WITH ACP STATES ON RENEWAL OF THE LOME
CONVENTION, BUT DID NOT TAKE ANY FORMAL DECISIONS ON
SUPPLEMENTARY NEGOTIATING DIRECTIVES CONCERNING CERTAIN
SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED DURING NEGO-
TIATIONS. THE COUNCIL ADDRESSED ONLY TWO OF THOSE
ISSUES--HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE DURATION OF A NEW CONVEN-
TION--BUT WAS ABLE TO AGREE ONLY THAT THE COMMUNITY'S
STATEMENT FOR THE FORMAL OPENING OF NEGOTIATIONS AT THE
JULY 24 EC/ACP MINISTERIAL SHOULD INCLUDE REFERENCES TO
THE "IMPORTANCE" OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE "DURABLE NATURE"
OF EC/ACP RELATIONS. THIS STATEMENT WILL NOW BE DRAFTED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 12802 01 OF 02 291817Z

BY THE COUNCIL SECRETARIAT ON THE BASIS OF BOTH THE
COUNCIL'S DISCUSSIONS AND COREPER WORKING GROUP DIS-
CUSSIONS, HELD ON THE MARGIN OF THE COUNCIL JUNE 27. THE
LATTER ALSO RESULTED IN SOME PROGRESS ON OTHER UNRESOLVED
ISSUES, NOTABLY CONSULTATION PROCEDURES AND INVESTMENT
PROTECTION. COREPER IS STILL WORKING ON STABEX, WITH THE
AIM OF POSSIBLY SETTling MEMBER STATE DIFFERENCES BEFORE

THE JULY 24 MINISTERIAL. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO DANISH PERMREP SOURCE, THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE ANNOYANCE AMONG MEMBER STATES THAT THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSAL TO THE COUNCIL FOR A NEGOTIATING MANDATE WAS IDENTICAL TO ITS INITIAL FEBRUARY SUBMISSION (REF A), AND DID NOT TAKE ACCOUNT OF MEMBER STATE COMMENTS OR VIEWS EXPRESSED DURING THE INTERVENING MONTHS. THE DANISH COUNCIL PRESIDENCY ACCORDINGLY SUBMITTED ITS OWN PARALLEL DRAFT MANDATE TO THE COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. THE RESULTING COMPROMISE MANDATE, AGREED BY THE COUNCIL, CONTAINS ONLY FORMAL AUTHORIZATION FOR THE COMMISSION TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH ACP STATES PARTY TO THE LOME CONVENTION, OR IN THE PROCESS OF ACCEDING THERETO, AS WELL AS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT DEVELOPING SUB-SAHARAN AFRICAN STATES WHICH HAVE ASKED TO TAKE PART IN NEGOTIATIONS, AND OTHER COUNTRIES MEETING ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS OF THE CURRENT CONVENTION.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS:

ACCORDING TO OUR DANISH SOURCE, THERE WAS GENERAL CONSENSUS GOING INTO THE COUNCIL THAT THERE SHOULD BE A "PREAMBULAR REFERENCE" IN THE NEW CONVENTION CONCERNING RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, BUT THE UK MAINTAINED ITS PAST INSISTENCE THAT ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE BE INCLUDED IN THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 BRUSSE 12802 01 OF 02 291817Z

BODY OF THE CONVENTION. A COMMISSION SPOKESMAN TOLD REPORTERS AT THE COUNCIL SESSION THAT THE UK PRESSED HARD FOR INCLUSION OF A NEW ARTICLE ALLOWING ANY CONVENTION SIGNATORY (EC OR ACP) TO DENOUNCE ALL OR PART OF THE CONVENTION, UPON TWO MONTHS NOTICE, IN INSTANCES OF FLAGRANT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION. THE SPOKESMAN SAID THAT MOST MEMBER STATES OPPOSED SUCH LANGUAGE BUT THAT BOTH THE UK AND THE NETHERLANDS ATTEMPTED TO LINK AGREEMENT ON HUMAN RIGHTS WITH AGREEMENT ON A COMMUNITY POSITION CONCERNING DURATION OF THE NEW CONVENTION. AS A RESULT, NO SERIOUS ATTEMPT WAS MADE TO SETTLE THE QUESTION, AND THE COUNCIL AGREED ONLY ON A REFERENCE IN THE OPENING STATEMENT EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS. OUR DANISH SOURCE HAS TOLD US COREPER WILL CONTINUE STUDY OF THIS ISSUE TO SEE IF ANY AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED ON WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS SHOULD FIGURE IN THE LANGUAGE OF THE CONVENTION.

4. IN REMARKS TO REPORTERS, UK FOREIGN SECRETARY OWEN EXPANDED SOMEWHAT ON THE AGREED TONE OF THE OPENING STATEMENT. HE SAID THE STATEMENT WILL EMPHASIZE THAT HUMAN RIGHTS POSE A PROBLEM WHICH THE COMMUNITY WOULD LIKE TO

DISCUSS WITH THE ACP STATES AS "PARTNERS AND EQUALS" AND THAT IT WILL SOLICIT ACP VIEWS. OWEN SAID THE EC SHOULD NOT "ASSUME TOO READILY THAT CAREFULLY EXPLAINING OUR VIEWS WILL NOT FIND AN ECHO" FROM THE ACP STATES, AND HE RECALLED THAT THE LAST COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE PRODUCED A VERY TOUGH STATEMENT ON UGANDA. HE ASSERTED THAT THE ACP STATES WOULD OBJECT TO THE EC LAYING DOWN RIGID CONDITIONS ON HUMAN RIGHTS TOO EARLY IN NEGOTIATIONS AND INSISTED THAT THE UK IS "TOTALLY FLEXIBLE" ON DETAILS CONCERNING HANDLING OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE AND TENDS TO FAVOR THE "LEAST PROVOCATIVE OF OPERATIVE CLAUSES. HOWEVER, OWEN EMPHASIZED THAT THE UK COULD NOT ACCEPT BEING PLACED IN A POSITION OF "UNDERWRITING THE EXISTING LEGAL SITUATION."

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 BRUSSE 12802 01 OF 02 291817Z

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 BRUSSE 12802 02 OF 02 291858Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-07 TRSE-00 LAB-04
SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 L-03 NSC-05
PA-01 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 XMB-02 /103 W
-----092506 291917Z /43

P 291752Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7572
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BRUSSELS 12802

USEEC

5. ACCORDING TO OUR DANISH SOURCE, THE GERMANS MOVED TOWARD THE FRENCH POSITION IN FAVOR OF A CONVENTION OF UNLIMITED DURATION (THE LINE-UP HAD PREVIOUSLY BEEN 8 TO 1 AGAINST THE FRENCH). SINCE THERE WAS NO HOPE OF PROGRESS ON DECIDING THIS ISSUE, THE COUNCIL AGREED TO LIMIT

LANGUAGE IN THE EC OPENING STATEMENT TO A REFERENCE CONCERNING THE "DURABLE NATURE" OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND ACP STATES. IN REMARKS TO REPORTERS, A COMMISSION SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT ANOTHER FACTOR IN THE COUNCIL DECISION TO OMIT ANY REFERENCE TO A SPECIFIC DURATION MAY HAVE BEEN RECOGNITION THAT THE ACP STATES THEMSELVES PROBABLY WILL NOT SPEAK WITH A SINGLE VOICE ON THIS ISSUE.

6. THE COREPER WORKING GROUP'S DISCUSSION OF INVESTMENT PROTECTION AND CONSULTATION PROCEDURES RESULTED IN PARTIAL PROGRESS. COMMISSION PROPOSALS ON CONSULTATION PROCEDURES WERE SPLIT INTO TWO PARTS: TRADE AND INDUSTRY. THE COUNCIL DECIDED THE COMMUNITY SHOULD SEEK TO STRENGTHEN EXISTING CONVENTION ARTICLES ON CONSULTATION MECHANISMS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 BRUSSE 12802 02 OF 02 291858Z

THROUGH LANGUAGE CALLING FOR PARTIES TO THE TREATY (NOT BUSINESS OR LABOR CIRCLES) TO CONSULT ON SENSITIVE SECTORS, WITH THE AIM OF AVOIDING ABRUPT INVOCATION OF SAFEGUARD MEASURES IN THE EVENT OF MARKET DISRUPTION DUE TO IMPORTS FROM ACP STATES (REF B). THE COUNCIL ALSO DECIDED THAT, IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE EXISTING CONVENTION CHAPTER ON INDUSTRY, THERE COULD BE CONSULTATIONS TO UP-DATE AND EXCHANGE INFORMATION ON SPECIFIC INDUSTRIES. A COMMISSION SPOKESMAN TOLD REPORTERS THAT, TO SATISFY GERMAN CONCERNS OVER THE NEED TO AVOID THE APPEARANCE OF PROTECTIONISM, THE PURPOSE OF THESE CONSULTATIONS SHOULD BE TO ENHANCE TRANSPARENCY THROUGH EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION. WHILE, ACCORDING TO THE COMMISSION SPOKESMAN, THE WORKING GROUP WAS UNABLE TO MAKE PROGRESS ON THE SPECIFICS OF THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSALS CONCERNING INVESTMENT PROTECTION (REF C), OUR DANISH SOURCE ADDS THAT THE WORKING GROUP AND THE COUNCIL DID AGREE THAT THE EC'S OPENING STATEMENT SHOULD INCLUDE A REFERENCE TO THE IMPORTANCE OF INCREASING INVESTMENT IN LDC'S AND THE NEED FOR A GOOD RECIPROCAL INVESTMENT CLIMATE. HINTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETINGS, TRADE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BRUSSE12802
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780269-0697
Format: TEL
From: BRUSSELS USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t1978069/aaaaahfh.tel
Line Count: 211
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4c4e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 BRUSSELS 3153, 78 BRUSSELS 12353, 78 BRUSSELS 12220
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2467968
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC FOREIGN MINISTERS COUNCIL, JUNE 26-27, 1978: RENEWAL OF LOME CONVENTION
TAGS: EAID, ETRD, BE, EEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4c4e390-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014